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PORTO RICO.

Arrival of immigrants.

Report of arrivals of alien steerage passengers at San Juan, Ponce, and subports during the week ended December 31, 1904.

Date of arrival.	Vessel.	Where from.	Number of aliens.
SAN JUAN.			
Dec. 27	Miguel M. Pinillos	Palma de Mallorca, Balearic Islands, and Cadiz, Spain.	2
23	Caracas	La Guaira, Venezuela	2
28	Buenos Aires	Genoa, Italy; Barcelona, Malaga, Cadiz, Spain.	56
PONCE.			
Dec. 29	Miguel M. Pinillos	Palma de Mallorca, Balearic Islands, and Cadiz, Spain.	3
FAJARDO.			
Dec. 17	Triunfo	St. Thomas, Danish West Indies	1
MAYAGUEZ.			
Dec. 29	Miguel M. Pinillos	Palma de Mallorca, Balearic Islands....	1
	Total	65

BENSON H. SISSON, *Acting Commissioner.*

TURKEY.

Reports from Trebizond—Case suspected of being plague—Cholera in the Caucasus.

Consul Sullivan reports, December 16 and 17, as follows:

A few days ago a young man died in this city after a brief illness, which was at the time diagnosed by some of the attending physicians as bubonic plague. All the symptoms strongly pointed to the disease being of the nature referred to.

A report asking for instructions was sent to the health board at Constantinople, and after considerable delay an order was given to have the body exhumed. This was done, and particles of the blood was taken from the region of the groin where the swelling was most apparent. The virus was injected into a live rat and a mouse, both of which died within a period of ten hours. A microscopical examination was made of the blood which was taken from the animals, and it was the opinion of some of the physicians that it contained the bacilli of plague, while others differed and are of the opinion that it was a case of meningitis. The fact that decomposition of the body had taken place rendered their opinion more difficult.

Up to this writing no quarantine has been placed on the steamers entering this port. Surveillance is, however, being kept on the house where the young man died. Any further developments of importance will be promptly reported to you. The delay in reporting this matter is due to the fact that the opinions of the physicians were not given up to this date.

Cholera in the Caucasus.

I am informed by the sanitary authorities of this city that cholera has broken out in the Caucasus Mountains and is now epidemic in

the cities of Tiflis and Baku, Russia. The disease has also spread to Batum.

The latter place is a port on the Black Sea about 100 miles distant from this city. There is considerable business transacted between both places, and several lines of steamers call there. A quarantine of five days has been placed on all steamers calling at that port. It is feared that the disease may spread to this city, as this has usually been the case on previous occasions. A great sense of fear and uneasiness prevails here at the present time.

Cholera in Turkey.

The following is received from Constantinople through the Department of State:

Sanitary bulletin of Professor of Bacteriology Hamdi Aziz, General of Division, etc., November 21, 1904.

Date.	Locality.	Cases.	Deaths.
Oct. 30	Renia (Karksuk).....	6	2
31	do.....	4	3
Nov. 1	do.....	5	3
2	do.....	3	2
1	Solimaniéh.....	2	1
2	do.....	3	2
6	do.....	2	1
7	do.....	6	3
21	Bagdad.....	1	1

WEST INDIES.

Report from Barbados—Inspection of vessels—Yellow fever and small-pox at Para.

Assistant Surgeon Ward reports, December 28 and January 4, as follows:

During the week ended December 24, 1904, bills of health were issued to 5 steamships and 4 sailing vessels with 720 crew, no steerage and 6 cabin passengers. Of this number, I inspected 2 steamships, 74 crew, and 5 cabin passengers, of whom 2 crew and no passengers were taken on at this port. There was 1 cabin passenger in transit for Puerto Cabello.

The U. S. cruiser *Atlanta*, from Port of Spain, Trinidad, bound to Hampton Roads, Va., arrived at Barbados December 19 to take the sick and the time-expired men to the United States from the cruisers *Olympia* and *Cleveland* now at this port. This vessel was twenty-two days from Bahia, where a case of smallpox had been landed and the infected compartments disinfected.

The U. S. supply ship *Culgoa* left this port for a port in the United States via Martinique December 23.

On December 19 I viséed the bill of health of the Republic of Panama issued to the Royal Mail steamship *Orinoco*, bound to Colon via other ports in the Caribbean Sea, with 128 crew, 24 laborers and passengers. I issued 3 certificates of vaccination to deck passengers taken on at this port for Colon.

The bill of health issued by the British consul at Para on December 14, 1904, to the British steamship *Horatio* has the following note:

There have been 18 deaths of yellow fever and 54 of smallpox in this city, and 5 suspected cases of plague in this city during the preceeding fourteen days.